

REMARKS

It is noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner, although objecting to claims 2-11 and 13-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, has stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 and 12 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borroni et al., U.S. Patent 6,227,012. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a detergent storing assembly of a washing machine and more particularly to a washing machine having a means for preventing a lid frame having a lid from being incorrectly assembled to a detergent box.

Although it is the Applicants' position that claims 1 and 12 are clearly distinguishable over the device for housing detergents as described in the Borroni et al. reference, U.S. Patent 6,227,012, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the present application, the Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2, and correspondingly, claim 2 was cancelled from the present application. In addition, the allowable subject matter of claim 3 was combined with original claim 1 and rewritten as newly added claim 21, and correspondingly, claim 3 was cancelled from the present application. Furthermore, original claim 1 was combined with allowable claim 4 and rewritten as newly added claim 22, and correspondingly, claim 4 was cancelled from the present application. Claims 5, 7, 8 and 9 were amended slightly to be dependent from newly added claim 22.

As the Examiner will note, claim 12 was amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 13, and correspondingly, claim 13 was cancelled from the present application. In addition, original claim 12 was combined with allowable claim 14 and rewritten as newly added claim 23, and correspondingly, claim 14 was cancelled from the present application. Also, original claim 12 was combined with allowable claim 15 and rewritten as newly added claim 24, and correspondingly, claim 15 was cancelled from the present application. Furthermore, claim 16 was amended slightly to be dependent from newly added claim 24.

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Reply to Office Action of December 13, 2006

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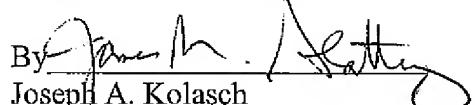
In view of the amendments made to the claims, it is now believed the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 and 12 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Borroni et al. and allowance of all of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Joseph A. Kolasch Reg. No. 22,463 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 13, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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